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BOOK REVIEWS

AN ABRIDGMENT OF VIRGINIA LAWS CONCERNING EDUCATION, by Anna L. Jones. (Lynchburg, Virginia: J. P. Bell Company, 1915, p. 285).

The purpose of the author was to collect together the whole statute law of the state, including constitutional provisions and the regulations of the state Board of Education, which in any way relate to education; and by correlating the various statutory provisions and treating them under their proper title, and by cutting away the mass of legislative verbiage and by stating the substance of the law in simple and concise form, to give to the layman, as well as the lawyer, a "dependable source of information open for easy reference and ready comprehension."

This object is attained by treating the subject under three major heads, as follows: "*Organization and Administration of the Public Free School System*," "*Institutions Educational in Character*" and "*Revenues and Property*." Under these titles all the laws of Virginia in any way dealing with education are grouped.

In each case where the author has laid down a proposition of law, the citation of the various Code references, which are authority for the statement, has been given. By this method, in each instance, on any given proposition, all the statutory provisions relating thereto are collected in one place, and as this facilitates investigation, to those of the profession who have to deal with problems involving school laws this work will prove of value as a digest and starting point.

The layman and those who are interested in the ordinary affairs of education and its welfare will find this volume very exhaustive, touching any phase of school work in which they may be interested, and a safe guide by which they may act. Especially to the teachers and officers of the public school system, this work will come as a great relief from the mass of uncodified material with which they have heretofore had to familiarize themselves, and will remain as a valuable aid and assistant in their efforts to facilitate better educational advantages throughout the Old Dominion.

To be impressed with the painstaking care with which the work was done, one only needs to read it. The details in every instance have been given with exactness, and, for the sake of clearness and absolute accuracy, at times, because of repetition, the author has risked the danger of being tedious. Its laborious fullness and completeness inspire confidence in it as an authority.

In passing, we cannot help mentioning the excellency of the mechanical make-up of the book. It is tastefully bound in yellow buckram, its type is clear and clean, the paper is of good quality, the body of the work is well broken up to make easy reading, and the heads and sub-heads are so arranged as to give the reader a splendid analysis and a quick understanding of the discussion and to lead him on by easy stages from one topic to another. This denotes a writer of ability and experience.

P. H. B.